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EXAMINER

KARIKARI, KWASI

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/669,122	Applicant(s) PATRON ET AL.	
	Examiner Kwasi Karikari	Art Unit 2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's arguments, see Pre-Brief conference, filed 10/16/2007, with respect to claims 1-20 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The Final Office action of 07/18/2007 has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Deshpande et al. (U.S 20020176579 A1) and Barriga-Caceres et al., (US 20030163733).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deshpande et al. (U.S 20020176579 A1), (hereinafter Deshpande) in view of Barriga-Caceres et al., (US 20030163733), (hereinafter Barriga).

Regarding claims 1, 11, 12, and 13, Deshpande discloses a network access system/program comprising:

a first network access hub (= hotspot access point 20) communicatively coupled to a global communications network (= hotspot provide network 10, see Fig. 1);

a second network access hub (= hotspot access point 30) communicatively coupled to the global communications network (= hotspot provide network 10, see Fig. 1);

an authentication engine (= authentication, billing 50) communicatively coupled to the first network access hub (20) and the second network access hub (30), the authentication engine operable to receive an initial set of credentials (identification and authentication information such as name and password) from a requesting user (= mobile device 40, see Par. [0023]) via the global communications network (see Pars. [0025 and 0037]); but fail teach **“an authorization engine operable to grant access to both transport services and federated data services of federated data service providers in response to authorization of the first set of credentials”**

However, Barriga teaches “an authorization engine operable to grant access to both transport services and federated data services of federated data service providers in response to authorization of the first set of credentials”(see Pars. 0009-10, 0022-25, 00280047-48 and 0066-70).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Barriga with the system of Deshpande for the benefit of achieving a federated single sign-on network (see Barriga, Par. 0025).

Regarding claim 2, as recited in claim 1, Deshpande further discloses that the system further comprising a short-range wireless transceiver associated with the first network access hub (see Pars. [0002 and 0020]).

Regarding claim 3, as recited in claim 2, Deshpande further discloses the system, wherein the transport services comprise wireless communication via a wireless local area network technology link (see Par. [0021]).

Regarding claim 4, as recited in claim 3, Deshpande further discloses the system, wherein the data services comprise a service that provides personalized information based on an identity of the requesting user (see Par. [0025]).

Regarding claim 5, as recited in claim 4, Barriga discloses the system, wherein, a first data service is provided by a first service provider, the data services further comprising another data service provided by a different service provider (see Pars. 0009-10, 0022-25, 00280047-48 and 0066-70).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Barriga with the system of Deshpande for the benefit of achieving a federated single sign-on network (see Barriga, Par. 0025).

Regarding claim 6, as recited in claim 5, Barriga discloses that the system, further comprising a federation engine operable to maintain information that indicates members

of a service provider federation, the service provider federation comprising the first service provider and the different service provider (see Pars. 0009-10, 0022-25, 00280047-48 and 0066-70).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Barriga with the system of Deshpande for the benefit of achieving a federated single sign-on network (see Barriga, Par. 0025).

Regarding **claim 7**, Deshpande discloses a network access method comprising: receiving a first set of credentials; but fails to teach **"authorizing access to a network data service and a network transport service in response to authenticating the first set of credentials; wherein said network data service is provided by a federated web-based data service provider"**

However, Barriga teaches "authorizing access to a network data service and a network transport service in response to authenticating the first set of credentials; wherein said network data service is provided by a federated web-based data service provider"(see Pars. 0009-10, 0022-25, 00280047-48 and 0066-70).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Barriga with the system of Deshpande for the benefit of achieving a federated single sign-on network (see Barriga, Par. 0025).

Regarding **claim 8**, as recited in claim 7, Deshpande discloses that the method further comprising: receiving a request for access from an electronic device (see Par. [0020]);

prompting the electronic device to send the first set of credentials (= PIN, password); authenticating the first set of credentials; and communicating an authentication token to the electronic device (see Pars. [0020 and 0025].

Regarding **claim 9**, as recited in claim 8, Deshpande discloses that the method further comprising: requesting that the electronic device cache the authentication token (see Par. [0020]); receiving a subsequent request for access from the electronic device (see Par. [0020]); but fails to teach **“recognizing an existence of the authentication token at the electronic device; authorizing access in response to the subsequent request without further authentication”**.

However, Barriga teaches “recognizing an existence of the authentication token at the electronic device; authorizing access in response to the subsequent request without further authentication”(= single sign-on, see Pars. 0009-10, 0022-25, 00280047-48 and 0066-70).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Barriga with the system of Deshpande for the benefit of achieving a federated single sign-on network (see Barriga, Par. 0025).

Regarding **claim 10**, as recited in claim 7, Deshpande discloses that the method further comprising;

receiving a request from an electronic device seeking access to a first data service via a first transport service (see Par. [0020]);

prompting the electronic device to send the first set of credentials authenticating the first set of credentials (see Par. [0037]);

receiving a request from a second electronic device seeking access to a second data service via a second transport service (see Pars. [0021 and 0030]); prompting the second electronic device to send a set of credentials; and authenticating the set of credentials (see Par. [0037]).

Regarding **claim 14**, as recited in claim 13, Deshpande discloses that the system further comprising the electronic device having a cache operable to store the authentication token (see Pars. [0024 and 0037]).

Regarding **claim 15**, as recited in claim 13, Deshpande discloses the system, wherein authentication token is a valid indicator of access rights to both transport services and data services at a second one of the plurality of hotspots (see Pars. [0037 and 042-43]).

Regarding **claim 16**, as recited in claim 13, Deshpande discloses that the system, further comprising:

an authentication engine communicatively coupled to the broad communications network and operable to receive an initial set of credentials from a requesting user and to compare the initial set of credentials against a maintained set of credentials (see Par. [0037]); but fails to teach **“a valid signal indicating that the requesting user is a valid user; and a federation engine operable to initiate a sharing of**

information associated with the valid user with a first federated data service provider”

However, Barriga teaches “a valid signal indicating that the requesting user is a valid user; and a federation engine operable to initiate a sharing of information associated with the valid user with a first federated data service provider” (see Pars. 0009-10, 0022-25, 00280047-48 and 0066-70).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Barriga with the system of Deshpande for the benefit of achieving a federated single sign-on network (see Barriga, Par. 0025).

Regarding **claim 17**, as recited in claim 13, Deshpande discloses that the system, further comprising:

an authentication engine communicatively coupled to the broad communications network and operable to output a valid signal indicating that a user requesting access is a valid user and entitled to transport and data service access (see Par. [0037]); but fails to teach **“a federation engine operable to initiate a sharing of at least a portion of a valid user information file with a first federated data service provider; and the valid user information operable to facilitate access to a federated data service without additional sign on operations by the user requesting access”**.

However, Barriga teaches “a federation engine operable to initiate a sharing of at least a portion of a valid user information file with a first federated data service provider; and the valid user information operable to facilitate access to a federated data

service without additional sign on operations by the user requesting access" (see Pars. 0009-10, 0022-25, 00280047-48 and 0066-70).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Barriga with the system of Deshpande for the benefit of achieving a federated single sign-on network (see Barriga, Par. 0025).

Regarding **claim 18**, as recited in claim 13, Deshpande discloses the system, wherein the data service comprises a unified messaging mailbox (see Pars. [0019 and 0041]).

Regarding **claim 19**, as recited in claim 13, Deshpande discloses the system, wherein the transport service comprises access to the broad communication network via the at least one of the plurality of hotspots (see Par. [0019] and Fig. 2).

Regarding **claim 20**, as recited in claim 19, Deshpande discloses that the system, further comprising:

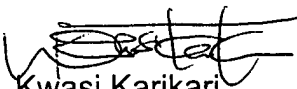
an authentication engine communicatively coupled to the broad communications network and operable to output a valid signal indicating that a user requesting access is a valid user and entitled to transport and data service access (0037); but fails to teach **"a federation engine operable to initiate a sharing of at least a portion of a valid user information file with a first federated data service provider ; and the valid user information operable to facilitate access to a federated data service without additional sign on operations by the user requesting access"**.


However, Barriga teaches "a federation engine operable to initiate a sharing of at least a portion of a valid user information file with a first federated data service provider ; and the valid user information operable to facilitate access to a federated data service without additional sign on operations by the user requesting access" (= single sign-on and federation, see Pars. 0009-10, 0022-25, 00280047-48 and 0066-70).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to combine the teaching of Barriga with the system of Deshpande for the benefit of achieving a federated single sign-on network (see Barriga, Par. 0025).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kwasi Karikari whose telephone number is 571-272-8566. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8 am - 4pm). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, *Rafael Pérez-Gutiérrez* can be reached on 571-272-7915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8566. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


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